

Howes Primary School Newsletter: 9th September 2016



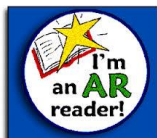
Welcome back to a brand new term at Howes. We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer holiday and are looking forward to another happy and productive year. It was lovely to see so many people at our family breakfast today. Thank you for coming and thank you to the Friends of Howes for their help.

We are very lucky to have some new faces joining us this term so we wish a very warm welcome to all of the families who are joining us and also to our new members of staff. Welcome to Mr Watson to Year 5, Mrs Ceairns to Year 3, Mrs Kerby to Year 2 and Mrs Knibb who will be teaching in Years 3 to 5 when teachers have their release time.

We very much look forward to working with you all as part of the community of Howes.

There are lots of events this term so please check through the diary dates.

Accelerated Reader Information Session for Year Three Parents



Mrs Townsend and Mrs Ceairns will be leading an Accelerated Reader (AR) information session for parents of children in Year Three and other parents who would like more information about AR on 13th September from 4-4:30pm. If you are unable to attend this session then a copy of the information given will be sent home in order to provide you with an overview of the session.

Parents Information Sessions (Years 1-6)

This term parents have the opportunity to attend a parents' information session which will focus on the year ahead for your child. Years 1, 2 and HIU sessions will be held on Monday 12th September and Years 3-6 will be held on Tuesday 13th September. These sessions will run from 3:30-4pm and will then be repeated from 4:30-5pm.

During these sessions staff will be sharing information with you about the curriculum, homework, targets and will also be giving parents a copy of their class newsletter. If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, the class newsletter and targets will be sent home in your child's book bag to ensure that you have all of the information.



Start of the day Safeguarding Procedures

We would like to remind all parents that the bell rings at 8:55am and all children are expected to be ready in the playground to enter the school at this time. If your child is late arriving at school, the gates to the playground will be closed and they must enter school via the main office in order to allow Mrs A'Barrow or Mrs Merrett to record that the children are safely on the premises.

If you are calling to inform us of your child's absence due to illness you are able to leave details on the school answerphone. The number to call is 02476411711. Many families have signed up to our text messaging service and if we do not receive a phone call providing us with information about an absence you will receive a message asking for confirmation as to why your child is absent from school as we need to ensure the children's safety at all times.

Please could we ask for you to support us in ensuring that the correct procedures are followed, thank you.

School Development Priorities

This year the school will be focusing on the following areas:

Improving the quality of teaching so that pupils, especially the most able and those who are disadvantaged, make good progress by:

- ensuring that all teachers have high expectations for all pupils and are clear about what pupils already know and can do
- setting suitably challenging work in mathematics and then moving pupils on to harder work more quickly when they are ready
- checking that pupils use their grammar and punctuation skills consistently in all their writing
- insisting that pupils present their work to the best of their ability and show good attitudes to learning.

Improving teaching and children's outcomes in the early years by:

- using information about what children already know and can do to set more challenging work for all children
- setting tasks which motivate and encourage boys to write more frequently.

Improving leadership and management by ensuring that:

- senior leaders use current systems to track pupils' progress more efficiently and effectively to check that groups of pupils are making sufficient progress
- governors receive information about the achievement of groups of pupils in order to challenge the effectiveness of the school's work, especially the impact of pupil premium funding on improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils
- leaders are more rigorous in their checks on how well pupils are progressing in their writing and mathematics.

Improving attendance by:

- checking and following up any unauthorised absence rigorously
- using absence information to inform leaders which strategies will be used to work with each family.



Details of the clubs that will be available throughout the course of this term have been sent home this week via a separate letter. All clubs will begin in the week of 12th September.

Celebration Assembly



Celebration Assembly will continue every Friday at 9am. Staff, children and parents have indicated that they have really enjoyed coming together to celebrate achievements within school and we will be continuing with this assembly this year. If your child is going to be receiving a certificate in assembly on the Friday, you will receive a slip home by Wednesday.



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Find out all the latest news at Howes by following us on Twitter. Please feel free to like our tweets or retweet us. If you need to contact school, please do that in the usual way – in person, by email or telephone.

Medication

We can only allow children to have medication in school if you have completed a medical form giving written permission from parents, clearly stating the dosage to be given. 'Medication' covers anything from throat sweets, to an inhaler or an epipen. All medication must be provided in its original packaging. All medication will be stored safely within school and must be clearly labelled. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that all medication is in date.

Dinner Money

The cost of dinner money remains at £2.00 a day (£10 a week). Please remember to send it in with your child's name on in an envelope at the beginning of the week. Envelopes are available at the office 10 for 20p or 50 £1.00. Thank you.



Attendance and Lateness

Please can we remind all families that the bell rings at 8:55am.

Absence phone line: please telephone the school office on 02476411711 as soon as possible. Thank you.

Class	Attendance	Lateness
Nursery	100%	0
HIU	77.5%	1
Reception	100%	2
Year 1	87.9%	3
Year 2	92.7%	3
Year 3	94.4%	2
Year 4	99%	4
Year 5	98.7%	0
Year 6	95.5%	5
Overall	93.8%	20

Attendance is a priority at Howes. We need to improve our attendance in order to achieve Good at our next Ofsted Inspection. Please work with us to ensure that your child arrives at school on time and attends every day.



12th September Clubs start this week

12th September HIU, Year 1 and 2 Class Information sessions 3:30-4pm and 4:30-5pm

13th September Years 3-6 Class Information sessions 3:30-4pm and 4:30-5pm

13th September Accelerated Reader information session for Key Stage Two parents 4-4:30pm

14th September Friends of Howes Meeting 6pm at school

27th September Coffee afternoon 2-3pm



5th October Phonics information session for Reception parents 5:30-6pm

12th October Friends of Howes Meeting 6pm at school

14th October Year 3 Class assembly 9am

20th October Flu vaccinations for Years 1, 2 and 3

20th October Parents Consultations

21st October Year 6 Class assembly 9am

21st October Friends of Howes Cinema evening

24th-28th October Half Term School Closed



2nd November Year 3 and 4 visiting the Roman Fort

3rd November Individual photographs

4th November Year 5 Class assembly 9am

9th November Friends of Howes Meeting 6pm at school

11th November Year 4 Class assembly 9am

18th November HIU Class assembly 9am

18th November Children In Need

18th November Coffee afternoon 2-3pm

25th November Non uniform

25th November Friends of Howes discos



5th December FS/KS1 dress rehearsal 9:30am

6th and 7th December FS/KS1 performances 2pm

9th December Friends of Howes Christmas Fair 3:30-6pm

12th December Whole school visit to Christ Church 1:30pm

13th December Christmas Jumper/T Shirt Day

13th December Christmas Dinner

14th December Friends of Howes meeting 6pm at school

14th and 15th December Christmas Craft days

16th December End of term

17th December – 2nd January Christmas Holidays



3rd January- Start of term for children

20th- 24th February- Half term

7th April- End of the Spring term



24th April- Start of term for children

1st May- Bank Holiday- school closed

29th May-2nd June- Half term

5th-9th June- Training week for staff, school closed to children

25th July- End of the summer term